SECOND REGULAR SESSION

House Concurrent Resolution No. 26

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES OXFORD (Sponsor), MORGAN, PACE, WALTON GRAY, McMANUS, RIZZO, SHUMAKE, JONES (63), BROWN (50), McDONALD, PIERSON, MAY, McGEOGHEGAN, SWEARINGEN, ELLINGER, CARLSON, HUGHES, TALBOY, COLONA, FALLERT AND McCANN BEATTY (Co-sponsors).

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WHEREAS , the current government of Vietnam is a nondemocratic, one-party system of government without rule of law that arbitrarily infringes upon the basic human and civiliberties of its citizens; and						
WHEREAS	Vietnamese-Americans	were forced	to flee V	Vietnam ir	fear o	of the

WHEREAS, Vietnamese-Americans were forced to flee Vietnam in fear of the government of Vietnam's campaign of retribution and persecution after the fall of Saigon in 1975; and

WHEREAS, the State of Missouri is home to 20,000 Vietnamese-Americans and residents of Vietnamese descent who have made substantial contributions to the cultural, religious, business, and commerce of the State of Missouri; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Vietnamese-Americans embrace the yellow with three red stripes heritage and freedom flag as the official symbol of the Vietnamese-American community; and

WHEREAS, dating back to 1948, the yellow flag with three red stripes has a long history in Vietnam and is a broader symbol of resilience, freedom, and democracy of and for Vietnamese-Americans and free Vietnamese around the world; and

WHEREAS, Vietnamese-Americans have shown their desire that the yellow flag with three red stripes be recognized as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American community:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the House of Representatives of the Ninety-sixth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate concurring therein, hereby urge the State of Missouri to formally recognize the yellow with three red stripes heritage and freedom flag as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American community in this state, and permit this flag to be displayed on any state-owned property, at any state-controlled or sponsored Vietnamese-American event, or at any public function organized by the Vietnamese-American community, subject to the permit requirements of the event's locality; and

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33 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Missouri General Assembly encourages county 34 officials and city legislators in the State of Missouri to pass resolutions recognizing the yellow 35 with three red stripes heritage and freedom flag as the official flag of the Vietnamese-American 36 community.

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